

Introduced by Senator Oropeza

February 21, 2007

An act to amend Sections 331 and 3500 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 382, as introduced, Oropeza. Elections: New citizens.

(1) Existing law authorizes a new citizen, as defined, to register and vote at the office of the county elections official at any time beginning on the 14th day before an election and ending on the 7th day prior to election day.

This bill would additionally authorize a new citizen to register and vote at another location designated by the county elections official, and extend that period until the close of polls on election day. By increasing the duties of local elections officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law defines a new citizen as any person who meets all the requirements of an elector of, and has established residency in, this state, except that he or she will become a United States citizen after the 15th day prior to an election, but on or before the 7th day prior to that election.

This bill would revise this definition by providing that a new citizen means any person who meets all the requirements of an elector of, and who has established residency in, this state, except that he or she will become a United States citizen after the 15th day prior to an election.

(3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 331 of the Elections Code is amended to
2 read:
3 331. "New citizen" means any person who meets all
4 requirements of an elector of, and has established residency in, the
5 ~~State of California~~ *state*, except that he or she will become a United
6 States citizen after the 15th day prior to an election ~~but on or before~~
7 ~~the seventh day prior to that election.~~
8 SEC. 2. Section 3500 of the Elections Code is amended to read:
9 3500. ~~Any~~ *A* new citizen is eligible to register and vote at the
10 office of, *or at another location designated by*, the county elections
11 official at any time beginning on the 14th day before an election
12 and ending ~~on the seventh day prior to~~ *at the close of polls on*
13 election day.
14 SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
15 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
16 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
17 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
18 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.